



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 29 July 2004

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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Daily Overview

- The News Journal reports government officials are puzzled as to how a World War I–vintage chemical "mustard" weapon found its way into a poultry farm driveway west of Bridgeville, DE. (See item [4](#))
- The New York Times reports five former leaders of the Holy Land Foundation, once the biggest Islamic charity in the United States, have been arrested on charges that they funneled \$12.4 million to Palestinian terrorists. (See item [8](#))
- The New York Times reports severe cargo congestion and labor shortages at American seaports are creating long delays in delivering goods and potential threats to national security. (See item [17](#))
- The Associated Press reports trace amounts of the poison ricin have been found in at least one jar of baby food that was tampered with last month in Irvine, CA. (See item [22](#))

DHS/IAIP Update Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS/IAIP Web Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. **July 28, Reuters** — U.S. refineries seen as less likely attack targets. The government has warned repeatedly that anti-American groups may be planning attacks on U.S. refineries, but some experts question whether refineries really would be high-priority targets. Other links in

the national energy supply chain are more vulnerable and more likely to produce greater bang for the buck for someone trying to inflict maximum damage, experts said. "I wouldn't put the refineries as the main target for al Qaeda because the body count wouldn't be high enough," said Fred Burton, vice president of counterterrorism for Stratfor, a security consulting firm. **Experts say refineries pose difficulties for would-be attackers because the typical U.S. facility is a sprawling, well-protected complex that would require careful targeting and some measure of luck to score a big hit. An attack on a single refinery would affect the markets and cause alarm, but putting a serious dent in U.S. refining supply would be a daunting task,** experts said. Neal Adams, author of the book "Oil and Terrorism," said other parts of the U.S. energy supply chain are more vulnerable to attack than refineries, for example, portions of oil and natural gas pipelines are above ground in unpopulated areas.
Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/rc/040728/energy_refinery_security_1.ht ml

2. *July 28, Voice of America* — **Russia's Yukos warns it may stop oil production.** Russia's embattled Yukos oil company may have to stop production within days due to a new court order in the ongoing legal battle with the Russian government. **Court officials ordered Yukos to halt the sale of all company property including oil, in a move that company officials warn will likely cause the company to collapse. Currently, Yukos produces 1.7 million barrels of oil per day, around 20 percent of Russia's output.** The company has already had all of its bank accounts and other assets frozen by court order in a case that the Kremlin says is intended to crack down on corruption. The new court order applies to Yukos' main operating units, including Yugansk-Neft-Gaz which accounts for 60 percent of total output. Last week, court bailiffs announced that Yuganzk-Neft-Gaz would be auctioned off in order to pay the tax bill, possibly at a price far below its estimated market value. Analysts say any sale of Yukos assets would likely mean a transfer to other oil companies that are on good terms with the government. Russia is the world's second largest oil exporter.
Source: <http://www.voanews.com/article.cfm?objectID=270AFF0C-2CE7-47A6-933888F3D35B87AD>

3. *July 28, Energy Info Source* — **Governor orders power reduction. California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger ordered state agencies to cut their power use on Tuesday, July 27, following a surge in demand for electricity caused partly by a recovering state economy.** "As the economy grows here in California, so does demand for energy. To get through this peak demand season in the short term it will be essential to conserve and invest in energy efficiency," Schwarzenegger said. The state is attempting to avoid a repeat of the rolling blackouts seen in 2000–2001 when a shortage of electricity was exacerbated by market manipulation by suppliers. **The California Independent System Operator, which controls about 75 percent of the state's power grid, reported demand for power was at an all-time high of 44,360 megawatts on Wednesday, July 21, the third consecutive day a new peak had been set.** The state's second largest utility, Southern California Edison, reported on Tuesday that consumption in its service territory has climbed by 4.6 percent this year. Claudia Chandler, spokesperson for the state's energy planning agency, the California Energy Commission, said the recovery in the state's economy had been faster than expected.
Source: <http://www.energyinfosource.com/aoi/news-details.cfm?id=22234&FLink=>

Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

4. *July 28, News Journal (DE)* — **Officials puzzled by chemical shell.** Government officials remained puzzled Tuesday, July 27, about how a World War I–vintage chemical "mustard" weapon found its way into a poultry farm driveway west of Bridgeville, DE. **Three Dover Air Force Base sergeants were hospitalized after they reacted to a blister agent released when they attempted to open and disarm the 75 mm chemical–filled shell. One of the three was still in a burn unit at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia as of Tuesday, July 27.** A spokesperson for the Army's Technical Escort Unit at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland said tests had tentatively identified the contents of the shell as sulfur–based mustard agent of a type produced in huge amounts for armed forces around the globe. But military, state and county officials said they could not explain how the ordnance ended up in a clamshell–covered driveway near the Maryland state line and were unsure of the steps needed to prevent a repeat or ensure prompt public notification.

Source: http://www.delawareonline.com/newsjournal/local/2004/07/28of_ficialspuzzle.html

5. *July 28, Canadian Press* — **Calcium chloride spill closes part of seaway. A chemical spill shut down part of the St. Lawrence Seaway on Tuesday, July 27, after a barge ran aground near Alexandria Bay, NY.** Officials closed the seaway between Cape Vincent, NY, and the Prescott anchorage in Ontario, Canada, around 6:30 a.m, docking six ships for most of the day. Preliminary reports from the scene suggest cables connecting a tugboat to the barge snapped, sending the barge into nearby rocks. Adina Juster, vice–president at the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corp., said more than 13,000 gallons of calcium chloride leaked from the barge into the water. Officials said the chemical, used to melt ice on roads and control dust, is "non–toxic" and doesn't pose a threat.

Source: <http://www.canoe.ca/NewsStand/LondonFreePress/News/2004/07/28/559435.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *July 28, Navy News Stand* — **CARAT task group arrives in Philippines for final exercise phase.** The exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Task Group arrived in the Philippines Tuesday, July 27, to begin the fifth and final phase of the 2004 exercise series. CARAT is a series of bilateral exercises held annually throughout Southeast Asia that began in 1995 by combining a number of existing exercises to be conducted sequentially by a single U.S. Navy task group. **For the first time, the use of the Portable Allied Command, Control and Communications Terminal (PAC3T) incorporated into the exercise will allow secure communications and an operational picture that can be used by commanders to maintain situational awareness of their units and tactical operations.** Through a series of demonstrations, the Combined Enterprise Regional Information Exchange (CENTRIX) system will also be introduced to the Philippine Navy. CENTRIX is a global Internet protocol architecture that allows U.S. forces to share information and operational planning with allies.

Source: http://www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=14478

[[Return to top](#)]

Banking and Finance Sector

7. *July 28, vnunet.com (UK)* — **Nearly two-thirds of all e-mails now spam.** Sixty-five per cent of all e-mails sent in June 2004 were spam -- up from just eight per cent three years ago, according to e-mail monitoring company Brightmail. The steady increase in spam rates shows no sign of slowing, and existing legislation such as the U.S. Can Spam Act will have little effect, claimed the company. The latest figures also show that non-English language spam is beginning to grow. Sixteen per cent of spam is now in languages other than English, reflecting the increasingly international nature of web traffic. **Brightmail also warned that the rise of phishing attacks is not only having drastic financial effects on those caught out, but may be harming public confidence in the safety and credibility of internet business.** The company called for a public education campaign by government and industry to teach users how to surf the internet safely. **Research by content security company Clearswift earlier this month found that financial and pharmaceutical spam was the fastest growing, and now makes up 69.6 per cent of spam. However, Clearswift also warned that spam is increasingly being used as a vehicle for financial scams, such as phishing.**

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/news/1156924>

8. *July 28, New York Times* — **Arrests tie charity group to Palestinian terrorists. Five former leaders of the Holy Land Foundation, once the biggest Islamic charity in the United States, were arrested Tuesday, July 27, on charges that they funneled \$12.4 million to Palestinian terrorists.** Law enforcement officials said the arrests represented one of their most important efforts since the September 11, 2001, attacks to stem the flow of money to terrorists from the United States. Lawyers for Holy Land promised to fight the charges vigorously, accusing the FBI of fabricating evidence. Within months of the September 11 attacks, the Bush administration froze several million dollars in Holy Land's assets. FBI officials said they suspected that founding members of Holy Land in the early 1990's devised a scheme to funnel money to Hamas in support of jihad in Palestine. **The 42-count indictment unsealed on Tuesday charges that Holy Land used hospitals, Islamic committees, and other organizations in the West Bank and Gaza that were controlled by Hamas to funnel money to terrorist causes.** Payments were then distributed to family members of individuals who were "martyred" or jailed in terrorist attacks, the government charged.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/07/28/politics/28terror.html?adxnml=1&adxnmlx=1091023312-wCzQ+WSv17ASmXfuRRrgxA>

9. *July 28, Finextra Research* — **Consumers still can't spot phishing scams. Almost one in three (28%) Internet users in the U.S. are unable to tell the difference between fraudulent "phishing" scam e-mails and legitimate traffic, according to research by MailFrontier,** a provider of e-mail security and anti-spam systems. The survey asked 1000 U.S. consumers to identify if an e-mail was legitimate or fraudulent. The research found that respondents are still easily fooled by some of the earliest and most unsophisticated scams. MailFrontier says the findings generate concern over the level of consumer awareness to the growing threat of phishing and says education, as well as technology, is required to reduce the number of victims of phishing scams. Recent research by Financial Insights estimated that global financial firms will suffer US\$400 million in fraud losses resulting from phishing attacks in 2004.

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=12250>

10. *July 27, Reuters* — **U.S. wants suspicious bank activity reported faster.** The U.S. Treasury is looking at ways to speed up filing of suspicious activity reports by banks as part of efforts to fight financial crime and terrorism, a senior U.S. official said on Tuesday, July 27. Measures could include technological and regulatory changes to ensure law enforcement officials can act on reports of suspicious dealings as quickly as possible, said William Fox, the head of the Department of Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). Banks currently have two months to notify the government of activities that could signal possible crime, such as unusually large transfers of cash, and can notify FinCEN using the Internet, mailed computer disks or paper filing. The government has recently come under pressure from lawmakers and critics to improve coordination in spotting and cracking down on money transfers that could fund illegal activities, including terrorism. **Fox said FinCEN's top priority to speed up the filing process would be to increase the number of institutions "e-filing" their Suspicious Activity Reports and other Bank Secrecy Act reports through its Website. Fox said FinCEN would also try to expedite the filing process by helping financial institutions spot tell-tale signs of suspicious activity that need urgent attention.**
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A18955-2004Jul 27.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Transportation Sector

11. *July 28, Reuters* — **Global air traffic jumps by 20 percent.** Global air passenger traffic rose over 20 percent in the first half of this year as travel recovered from the effects of an economic downturn and the SARS virus in Asia, an airline industry group said Wednesday, July 28. **The outlook for the full year was also bright, with the Geneva-based International Air Transport Association (IATA) forecasting double-digit growth in international air passenger traffic for the year as a whole.** While oil prices remained a risk, cost controls introduced by the airlines in the wake of the long travel downturn meant that the industry could achieve break-even or better by the end of the year, IATA said. "International passenger traffic growth in the first half of 2004 substantially exceeded our expectations," IATA Director-General Giovanni Bisignani said in a statement. Passenger traffic was 20.4 percent higher in the January-to-June period compared with a year earlier, while cargo traffic was 13 percent higher, IATA said. The surge marked a clear rebound from the same period in 2003 when air travel was depressed by the effects of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and the epidemic of the deadly flu-type SARS virus in Asia and Canada. But IATA said the first-half performance in passenger and cargo traffic was still impressive as it was 8.4 percent up on the same period in 2000, which IATA has dubbed the last "normal" year for the industry.
Source: <http://money.cnn.com/2004/07/28/news/international/iata.reut/index.htm?cnn=yes>

12. *July 28, Miami Herald (FL)* — **Dredging of Miami River approved to start in fall.** Dredging of the Miami River, which sparked decades of debate when it was first proposed in the early 1970s, is expected to begin in October after the Miami-Dade County Commission approved an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Tuesday, July 27. The river was last dredged in 1935, and has silted up so much since then that cargo ships must enter and leave on high tide and cannot be fully loaded, said Brett Bibeau, managing director of the Miami River Commission. **Chief proponents have been shipping interests, primarily firms shipping to**

and from Caribbean ports that cannot accommodate the large ships that use the Port of Miami — and that cannot afford the port's fees. The river handled \$4.1 billion dollars of cargo in 2001, tying it with Tampa as the fourth-largest port in the state, Bibeau said. The dredging, to a depth of 15 feet, will be administered by the Corps of Engineers. Dredging the river has been debated for decades by shipping firms, environmentalists, and people who live near the waterway. **Work was held up for years by concerns over what to do with the 900,000 tons of material that will be dredged up. Years of industrial waste, surface runoff, sewage from rogue connections, and shipping waste have been deposited on the river bottom, lacing the sediment with lead, copper, pesticides and PCB.**

Source: <http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/local/9261999.htm? 1c>

13. *July 28, Associated Press* — **Ghana Airways flights suspended in U.S. Ghana's state-run airline was barred by U.S. officials Tuesday, July 27, from flying into and out of the United States during an investigation of allegations it ignored orders to ground unsafe aircraft and flew on an expired license.** The decision to suspend the airline and the circumstances that led to it are very rare, possibly unprecedented, said Robert Johnson, a Department of Transportation spokesperson. In two instances, Ghana Airways used an aircraft that had been ordered grounded by the Federal Aviation Administration because of safety concerns, the department said. The roundtrip flights between Ghana and New York and Ghana and Baltimore took place on July 24 and 26, Johnson said. "Ghana Airways' recent actions have raised serious questions regarding safety and licensing, which must be answered before the airline will be allowed to resume service to and from the United States," the department announcement said. Ghana Airways was not immediately reachable for comment.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/TRAVEL/07/28/ghana.airways.suspension.ap/>

14. *July 28, Berkshire Eagle Online (MA)* — **GOP convention forces rail changes. Riders of virtually every Amtrak train to New York City will be required to make reservations from Saturday, August 28, through Thursday, September 2, the week of the Republican national convention.** Amtrak will not change its current published schedule, but the "unreserved" Amtrak trains serving Penn Station in New York — a destination for Berkshire area residents who board Amtrak trains at stations in Albany-Rensselaer or Hudson — will require a reservation. They currently require only a ticket. Stepped-up security measures will be in effect on trains to and from Penn Station, and delays are to be expected, according to a news release from Amtrak. **There are no new restrictions on carry-on luggage, but the railroad requires that all luggage bear identification tags. En-route inspections of trains by police will occur, and passengers may observe police using specially trained dogs on trains and in Penn Station.** Access to Penn Station, which is located at Madison Square Garden, the site of the convention, will be limited to only two entrances from August 28 through September 3. The entrances are at Seventh Avenue and 32nd Street and 34th Street just west of Seventh Avenue, an entrance used primarily by Long Island Rail Road passengers.

Source: <http://www.berkshireeagle.com/Stories/0.1413.101~7516~229874 9.00.html>

15. *July 28, CNN* — **FAA calls O'Hare delays unacceptable.** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials, citing a huge increase in flight delays at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport that is affecting flights across the country, are summoning airlines to Washington in an effort to seek voluntary flight reductions at O'Hare. "We cannot permit O'Hare congestion to ground an economy and aviation system that are both roaring back," Mineta said in a written statement.

The meeting is scheduled for August 4. **Flight delays have skyrocketed at O'Hare, both because of airline competition and the introduction of a new airline into the Chicago market.** A record 58,600 flight delays through June has exceeded the total in the three previous years, FAA Administrator Marion Blakey said. Since many flights are being delayed for an hour or more, passengers are not making connections in other cities, she said. In calling the August 4 meeting, Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta invokes newly granted authority under the FAA's Vision 100 reauthorization, passed by Congress in November 2003, by "determining that a meeting is necessary to meet a serious transportation need and achieve an important public benefit."

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/TRAVEL/07/28/ohare.delays/index.html>

16. *July 27, Global Security Newswire* — **Japan set to hold PSI exercise.** This fall, Japan is set to hold a drill on blocking a shipment of WMD-related cargo based on the U.S.-led Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), the Asahi Shimbun reported today. Japan is expected to propose the exercise during a two-day meeting beginning August 5 in Oslo of PSI operational specialists, the Shimbun reported. **The drill, to be held between late October and early November, would involve ships and aircraft from the United States, Australia and other PSI members. In addition, China, South Korea and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations will also be invited to attend the exercise.** Potential training scenarios call for ships from the Japanese Coast Guard and other nations to pursue and search boats on the open sea boats.

Source: http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/2004_7_27.html#610C1DA7

17. *July 26, New York Times* — **At ports, cargo backlog raises security questions.** Severe cargo congestion and labor shortages at American seaports are creating long delays in delivering goods and potential threats to national security, dockworkers and security experts say. **The problems are particularly acute at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the nation's busiest, handling roughly a third of the nine million cargo containers that arrive in the United States each year.** David Arian, president of Local 13 of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, which works the Los Angeles waterfront, said the facilities and work crews here could not keep up with the volume of incoming freight. Arian said that as a result some new port regulations from the Department of Homeland Security were not being followed. Security and intelligence experts have identified the nation's 361 seaports and the 60,000 mostly foreign-flagged ships that sail in and out of them each year as prime targets for a potential terrorist attack. But ships and seaports have received only a small fraction of the attention given the aviation system since the September 11 terrorist attacks, they said. Stephen E. Flynn, a retired Coast Guard commander and a maritime security expert at the Council on Foreign Relations, contends that cargo containers will one day be used as "the poor man's missile" to deliver devastating weapons to American shores.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/07/27/national/27port.html?adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1090930738-yjqwsrfsWqPkersZ419jfq>

[[Return to top](#)]

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

Agriculture Sector

18. *July 28, Dow Jones Newswires* — **Panel says U.S. should carefully weigh biotech proposals. Federal regulators should look more closely at the potential health effects of some genetically modified plants before they can be grown as commercial crops, according to a scientific advisory panel. It also said regulators should check for potential food safety problems after people eat the products.** The report by a committee of the National Research Council and Institute of Medicine said regulators should target tighter scrutiny at genetically engineered varieties that have greater levels of biological differences from current plants. The analyses also should look more closely at conventionally developed plants if there are indications that naturally occurring chemicals in the conventional plants could have unintended health effects, the report said. Some chemicals in plants can create allergic reactions or otherwise make some people sick. To prevent such problems, the study recommended a case-by-case approach to the applications based on compounds in conventional as well as biotech plants, rather than the current focus on biotech varieties. The report was done for the Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Environmental Protection Agency, which oversee biotech crop applications.
Source: http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=26454
19. *July 28, American Society of Plant Biologists* — **Plant gene discovery could enhance growth. Scientists at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research at Cornell University have uncovered the genes that enable plants to interact with beneficial soil dwelling fungi and to access phosphate delivered to the roots by these fungi -- a first step, they say, toward enhancing the beneficial relationship for crop plants , while reducing fertilizer use.** Discovery of the phosphate-transport genes was announced Wednesday, July 28, by Maria Harrison, a senior scientist at the research institute, during the American Society of Plant Biologists' annual meeting. She said considerable work lies ahead before scientists learn to exploit the genetic discovery and harness the potential of this naturally occurring, symbiotic fungus-plant association, but that the payoff to growers and to the environment could be substantial: more efficient plant growth with less phosphorus-based fertilizer, and a subsequent reduction of phosphate runoff in surface water.
Source: http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2004-07/asop-pgd071904.php
20. *July 27, Associated Press* — **Bird flu spreading in Vietnam. Veterinary officials confirmed the spread of bird flu to an 11th province in Vietnam's southern Mekong Delta, as the government urged heightened vigilance against the re-emergence of the dangerous virus, an official said Tuesday, July 27.** Long An province is the latest area where the H5N1 virus has staged a comeback, said Hoang Van Nam, head of the epidemiology section of the Veterinary Department. To date, more than 50,000 birds have died or been culled in the 11 provinces in the most recent wave of outbreaks since the virus resurfaced in the country after Vietnam declared itself free of bird flu at the end of March. Earlier this month, the disease killed more than 1,000 chickens in Long An province. Since then, some 4,000 chickens at two farms have been culled as a precaution to halt the spread of the virus. "The danger of bird flu recurrence and (of it) spreading further remains high," Nam said. He attributed the heightened concern to unchecked poultry being smuggled into Vietnam and migratory birds that might

carry N5H1 from country to country. Long An, a major poultry breeding area in the Mekong Delta, was the first place that reported bird flu outbreaks in Vietnam late last year. It was one of the worst hit by the epidemic, which eventually spread to 57 of the country's 64 provinces. More than 43 million poultry died or were culled in Vietnam.

Source: <http://www.canada.com/fortstjohn/story.html?id=E7C1663D-D954-4BE7-8800-31F1E3B3EC79>

[[Return to top](#)]

Food Sector

21. *July 28, Medical News Today* — Banned American beef imported to South Korea.

American beef was imported to South Korea through Mexico since South Korea banned imports of American beef following the outbreak of mad cow disease in Washington State last December, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF). The MAF announced Wednesday, July 28, out of the 38 tons of beef imported, 633 pounds of American beef were shipped into Korea through Mexico. The American beef will be shipped back, an MAF official said. Korea will ask Mexico to better regulate its meat processing plant so that the shipments to Korea do not contain American beef.

Source: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=11347>

22. *July 28, Associated Press* — Tampered baby food contained ricin. The FBI says trace amounts of the poison ricin have been found in at least one jar of baby food that was tampered with last month. The FBI and the Irvine, CA, Police Department are investigating the suspected food tampering and no arrests have been made. Authorities have not disclosed the amount of ricin discovered, the number of baby food jars that contained the deadly poison or any possible motive. **On June 16th, a man called police in Irvine to report he found a note inside a jar of baby food warning that the container had been contaminated.** A similar case was reported by an Irvine couple on May 31st involving the same baby food, Gerber Banana Yogurt. Neither baby became ill.

Source: <http://www.kesq.com/Global/story.asp?S=2101877>

23. *July 27, Food Safety and Inspection Service* — Beef and pork products recall. W. Bober's Meat Market, Inc., a Jersey City, NJ, firm, is voluntarily recalling approximately 500 pounds of beef and pork products that may be contaminated with Listeria monocytogenes, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced Tuesday, July 27. The products were produced on July 20, 2004, and distributed to warehouses in New York and Pennsylvania. The products were also sold at the company's retail counter in Jersey City. Consumption of food contaminated with Listeria monocytogenes can cause listeriosis, an uncommon but potentially fatal disease. Listeriosis can also cause miscarriages and stillbirths, as well as serious and sometimes fatal infections in those with weak immune systems.

Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_027_2004_Release/index.asp

24. *July 27, Food Safety and Inspection Service* — Chicken blintzes recalled. M & P Food Production Ltd., a Brooklyn, NY, firm, is voluntarily recalling approximately 18 pounds

of chicken blintzes that may be contaminated with Salmonella, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced Tuesday, July 27. The problem was discovered through routine FSIS microbiological testing. The blintzes were distributed to retail stores in Brooklyn. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of this product. Consumption of food contaminated with Salmonella can cause salmonellosis, one of the most common bacterial foodborne illnesses. Salmonella infections can be life threatening, especially for infants, the frail or elderly, and persons with chronic disease. Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_026_2004_Releas/index.asp

[[Return to top](#)]

Water Sector

25. *July 28, Associated Press* — **Officials link drought, toxic algae. Drought may have helped trigger unusual blooms of toxic algae in several Nebraska lakes that have sickened more than 40 people and killed several dogs, state officials said Tuesday, July 27.** Lower water levels create greater concentrations of the naturally occurring blue–green algae, and sunlight reaching to greater depths could stimulate more growth, said Brian McManus, a spokesman for the Department of Environmental Quality. Also, years of dry conditions in eastern Nebraska were followed this year by rain and cloudy conditions, allowing some algae strains to become more dominant. Pawnee Lake west of Lincoln was placed on a health alert July 16, and more than 40 people who have visited the lake in recent weeks have called health officials complaining of stomach and skin ailments. Several other lakes are on a similar alert. State officials first noticed the toxic algae problem in May when they were told three dogs had died after drinking water out of Buccaneer Bay Lake a residential lake development near Plattsmouth. Around May 15, two dogs died after drinking water from Hanson Lake. Source: http://abcnews.go.com/wire/US/ap20040728_497.html

26. *July 27, Post Independent (CO)* — **Pump mishap prompts boil order.** Rifle, CO, residents are being cautioned to boil their tap water for at least one minute before using it in drinking, cooking, and brushing teeth, until further notice. The latest incident is separate from the detection of coliform in city water samples reported to residents last week. The city determined no boil order was required then. According to an emergency notice the Rifle sent out to the media on Monday, July 26, a water sample taken Sunday showed turbidity levels of 2.5 units. The normal standard level of turbidity is 0.5. "Because of these high levels of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease–causing organisms," the emergency warning says. **The cause of the problem is a raw water pump that was inadvertently left on overnight Saturday, July 24, while the alum and polymer pumps were turned off, according to the city. The result was raw water being pumped into the water plant, and possibly into the distribution system, without full treatment to reduce turbidity levels.** While turbidity itself has no ill health effects, it can be accompanied by the presence of disease–causing organisms, including bacteria, viruses, and parasites. Source: <http://www.postindependent.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20040727/VALLEYNEWS/107270009&rs=3>

27. *July 27, USA Today* — **Dry West sends out for water. The next frontier in the West may be a billion–dollar system of water wells and pipes. From Las Vegas, NV, to El Paso, TX,**

communities in the midst of huge development booms expect to spend fortunes to lay pipes from new water sources, some of them hundreds of miles away. The proposed projects also reflect a hard fact about the driest region in the U.S.: All the water in the West's rivers, creeks, lakes, and reservoirs is taken, committed to present needs. The biggest of the new ventures is in the Las Vegas Valley. A proposed two billion dollar network of pipelines would bring water from deep wells across rural Nevada. For the past half-century, Las Vegas has tapped nearby Lake Mead, the huge reservoir created by Hoover Dam on the Colorado River. But the city has maxed out Nevada's share of the Colorado. The district wants to bring in groundwater from dozens of remote valleys in eastern Nevada. Las Vegas proposes in the coming decade to drill scores of wells, some of them as far as 250 miles away. The scheme could pipe in enough water to accommodate nearly double the metro area's 1.6 million population. It also could trigger a water war. Environmentalists, ranchers, and other rural folk fear a repeat of the West's worst water episode: the dust bowl that Los Angeles left in eastern California in the 1920s after draining Owens Lake with a 250-mile aqueduct.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2004-07-27-dry-west-water_x.htm

[[Return to top](#)]

Public Health Sector

28. *July 28, Seattle Times (WA)* — Doctor possibly exposed 200 to whooping cough. A Swedish Medical Center, in Seattle, WA, emergency-room physician may have exposed nearly 200 patients and staff members to whooping cough, and the hospital is administering protective antibiotics to all. No cases stemming from exposures to the doctor inside or outside the hospital had been diagnosed as of Tuesday, July 27, Swedish and public-health officials said. Swedish officials said 107 emergency-room patients and 90 employees were potentially exposed to the physician, who worked intermittently at the First Hill Campus of the hospital from July 1 through July 18, and was diagnosed with the disease Saturday, July 24. The number of patients potentially exposed could increase, depending on the length of time doctors determine the ER physician was contagious, hospital officials said.

Source: http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2001990610_w_hoop28m.html

29. *July 28, Innovations Report (Germany)* — Carbohydrate structure in the cell walls of tuberculosis bacteria. According to the World Health Organization about two million people worldwide die each year of tuberculosis. **Researchers at the University of Leeds have now discovered a carbohydrate with an unusual structure in the cell walls of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacterium that causes tuberculosis. This could be a new starting point for pharmaceutical research.** The main component of the cell walls of mycobacteria is a lipoarabinomannan (LAM), a molecule consisting of a branched segment made of many sugar building blocks, which is anchored to the cell wall by a fat-like segment. The sugars involved are almost exclusively arabinose and mannose. LAM plays an important role in infection, because it helps the mycobacteria to invade macrophages, dampen the immune response, and protect the invader from oxidation. Researchers working with Achim Treumann have recently discovered that some of the mannose end groups on the outside of the molecule carry another type of sugar building block, a so called methylthiopentofuranose. This discovery is astonishing because this is the first time that a methylthiosugar has been identified as a component of a polysaccharide. The sulfur atom may be responsible for the protection from oxidation provided

by LAM.

Source: http://www.innovations-report.com/html/reports/life_sciences/report-31775.html

30. *July 27, Reuters* — **Report on hospital errors. As many as 195,000 people a year could be dying in U.S. hospitals because of easily prevented errors, a company said on Tuesday, July 27, in an estimate that doubles previous figures.** Lakewood, CO, based HealthGrades Inc. said its data covers all 50 states and is more up-to-date than a 1999 study from the Institute of Medicine that said 98,000 people a year die from medical errors. The company, which rates hospitals based on a variety of criteria and provides information to insurers and health plans, said its researchers looked at three years of Medicare data in all 50 states. HealthGrades included as mistakes failure to rescue dying patients and the death of low-risk patients from infections — neither of which the Institute of Medicine report included. **It said it found about 1.14 million "patient-safety incidents" occurred among the 37 million hospitalizations.**

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=5790535>

31. *July 27, Associated Press* — **Illness hits Yellowstone visitors, workers. A highly infectious illness sickened 134 people at Yellowstone in June and early July, the National Park Service said.** The virus was likely the same bug that has sickened hundreds on cruise ships and caused earlier outbreaks at Yellowstone and Grand Canyon national parks. Of those who became sick, 53 were visitors and 81 were employees. Many of the workers were infected while cleaning up after sick visitors in a hotel room or living in close quarters at a dormitory, said Charles Higgins, director of the National Park Service's Office of Public Health. **The outbreak was blamed on a norovirus.** It sickens an estimated 23 million people every year, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Source: <http://www.tallahassee.com/mld/tallahassee/news/nation/9258403.htm>

[[Return to top](#)]

Government Sector

32. *July 27, Department of Homeland Security* — **Secretary Ridge announces Executive Director of the Homeland Security Advisory Council. Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge has announced the appointment of Daniel Ostergaard as the Executive Director of the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC).** Ostergaard previously served as the Homeland Security and Criminal Justice Liaison for the Executive Office of Governor Jeb Bush and the state of Florida. Prior to his service with the state of Florida, Ostergaard served on active duty in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1990 to 2001 and continues his service as an officer in the Coast Guard Reserve. The Executive Director of the Homeland Security Advisory Council provides strategic management of the HSAC and serves as a senior advisor to Secretary Ridge.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3864>

[[Return to top](#)]

Emergency Services Sector

33. *July 28, Boston.com (MA)* — **Boston's emergency workers hope for best, but prepare for the worst. With antidotes for nerve gas and cyanide, and plenty of Cipro to combat anthrax, Boston's doctors and paramedics are more prepared than any emergency medical team has ever been for a crisis at a national political convention.** They have trained, practiced, and developed partnerships. With that in mind, Boston EMS trained more than 600 area hospital workers in decontamination, emergency response, and hazardous materials techniques. For the convention, besides the 350 Boston EMS workers who are on the job along with dozens of doctors, there are 105 federal Disaster Management Assistance Team workers toiling in the shadows of the FleetCenter In a city where 20 ambulances are typically ready to respond, this week there are 60. While Boston EMS usually relies on just one channel for radio communications, this week it is using five. And should a building collapse, an urban search and rescue team is standing by. They say they can keep all the "chempacks" of cyanide and nerve gas antidotes from the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention long after the delegates go home.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/politics/conventions/articles/2004/07/28/city_emergency_workers_hope_for_best_but_prepared_for_the_worst/

34. *July 28, Federal Computer Week* — **Input sought on Integrated Wireless Network plan. Department of Justice, Treasury, and Homeland Security officials are seeking feedback on a recently issued draft statement of objectives for an interoperable, nationwide wireless communications system.** The document, which broadly outlines the goals for the Integrated Wireless Network (IWN), will lead to the release of a request for proposals later this year. Through IWN, officials from the three departments have established a joint program office to consolidate and modernize the various outdated and inadequate communications systems across the country. Such a system will reduce developmental and operational costs and improve service for users, officials say. **They envision a seamless, secure and reliable system serving 80,000 law enforcement users from those three departments at about 2,500 sites, including coverage in major metropolitan areas, on highways, at land and coastal border areas, and at ports of entry.** Although IWN will mainly support federal users and their missions, it will link to state and local law enforcement systems. Officials are conducting a program in Seattle to test the initiative's technical features and project and logistics management.

Source: <http://fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0726/web-iwn-07-27-04.asp>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

35. *July 28, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-04-376: Information Security: Agencies Need to Implement Consistent Processes in Authorizing Systems for Operation (Report).** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requires agencies to certify the security controls of their information systems and to formally authorize and accept the risk associated with their operation (a process known as accreditation). These processes support requirements of the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA). Further, OMB requires agencies to report the number of systems authorized following certification and accreditation as one of the key FISMA performance measures. In response to the committee and subcommittee request, **the Government Accountability Office (1) identified existing**

governmentwide requirements and guidelines for certifying and accrediting information systems, (2) determined the extent to which agencies have reported their systems as certified and accredited, and (3) assessed whether their processes provide consistent, comparable results and adequate information for authorizing officials. Highlights:

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d04376high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-04-376>

36. *July 28, The Christian Science Monitor* — **Terrorists spread their messages online.** A growing number of al Qaeda Websites offer instructions for kidnapping and killing victims. One al Qaeda Website, called Al Battar, offers chilling details on how to conduct private and public kidnappings. It points out the number of cells essential to target and and hide victims. It details how to handle hostages. It gives advice on negotiating tactics and on releasing captives. The site is posted on the Internet twice a month. It's one of several Websites that the terrorist group and its supporters built after the U.S. successfully routed them from Afghanistan in late 2001. And it is one of some 4,000 websites that, experts say, now exist to carry on a "virtual" terror war—and plan actual attacks. **The rapid proliferation of the terror sites provides a dilemma for intelligence officials and terror experts alike. Should sites be shut down or be monitored for information that might help thwart attacks or provide information about how the groups are evolving strategically?** Intelligence officials say they try to monitor the sites. For one thing, it wouldn't be easy to close them down. Not just because they are ubiquitous, but because they know they are targeted for shut-downs or being monitored. For their part, terrorist Websites try to elude their trackers. They feign closures of the sites, often shortly after they're put up, only to move them to different locations on the Web.

Source: <http://csmonitor.com/2004/0728/p03s01-usgn.html>

37. *July 28, IDG News Service* — **Denial of Service attack downs DoubleClick.** Internet advertising company DoubleClick was shut down this week by a denial of service attack launched from computers on the Internet, a company spokesperson confirms. **The massive attack began at around 10:30 a.m. EST Tuesday, July 27, and crippled the company's Website and its advertising servers, which distribute Web advertisements to other Websites on the Internet. Ripple effects from the attacks were felt across the Internet, as Web pages that display DoubleClick ads struggled to retrieve them from the company's servers.** Leading Websites all experienced significant slow downs during the period covered by the attack, including the Washington Post, New York Times, CNet Networks, Nortel Networks, and InfoWorld magazine, according to Keynote Systems, a Web performance measurement company. DoubleClick's domain name system (DNS) servers were the target of the attack, which came from "outside sources" that it has not identified and lasted for approximately four hours, says Jennifer Blum of DoubleClick.

Source: <http://www.pcworld.com/news/article/0,aid,117125,00.asp>

38. *July 28, Federal Computer Week* — **EU to build secure network.** European Commission officials called on industry this month to help create a secure network for the entire European Union (EU) that could cost as much as \$120.5 million. **The new Secured Trans-European Services for Telematics between Administrations (s-TESTA) network will replace the TESTA network that EU governments have been gradually building since 1996. s-TESTA will be an intranet backbone for the EU central government and the governments of its members.** The contract will be split into two segments, both with a period of four years with a

one-year extension, according to the solicitation. During the first segment developers will design and build the secure network. During the second segment officials will provide support services for various government administrations and the central project team within the EC's Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) group. This solicitation is for a description of a vendor's capabilities based on the basic s-TESTA requirements.

Source: <http://fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0726/web-eu-07-27-04.asp>

39. *July 27, US-CERT* — **Multiple Cisco ONS control cards fail to properly handle malformed packets.** There is a vulnerability in the way the XTC, TCC/TCC+/TCC2, TCCi/TCC2, and TSC control cards handle malformed packets. By sending specially crafted packets, a remote, unauthenticated attacker could cause control cards to reset on an affected optical device. **Repeated exploitation of this vulnerability could result in a denial of service.** Additional details are available in the following Vulnerability Notes on the US-CERT Website: VU#800384, VU#969344, VU#918920, VU#277048, VU#486224, VU#548968.
Source: <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls>
40. *July 27, US-CERT* — **Vulnerability Note VU#760432: Cisco Transaction Language 1 (TL1) interface fails to properly validate accounts with blank passwords.** Transaction Language 1 (TL1) is a widely used telecommunications management protocol. A default account, CISCO15, contains a blank password, which is to be changed during the install process. There is a vulnerability in the way the TL1 login interface processes long passwords that could permit an attacker to access the Cisco ONS device for accounts that have a blank password. **A remote attacker could successfully authenticate to such an account using any password longer than ten characters.** The CISCO15 account has super-user privileges. Cisco has released an advisory "Cisco ONS 15327, ONS 15454, ONS 15454 SDH, and ONS 15600 Malformed Packet Vulnerabilities" to address this issue:
<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20040721-ons.s.html>
Source: <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/760432>
41. *July 27, Associated Press* — **Researchers seek simpler software debugging.** A debugging program has been developed by Brad Myers, a Carnegie Mellon University computer science professor, and a graduate student, Andrew Ko, that lets users ask questions about computer errors in plain English: Why didn't a program behave as expected? **Funded by \$1.2 million from the National Science Foundation, Whyline- (Workspace for Helping You Link Instructions to Numbers and Events) is part of a larger, nationwide project called EUSES (End Users Shaping Effective Software) to make computers friendlier for everyday users by changing everything from how they look to how they act.** While testing a program, if something appears to go awry, a user can hit the "Why" button, which stops the program. Whyline then offers questions based on programmed events. Whyline has been used only to debug programs in Alice, an academic programming language with a limited vocabulary of commands to make interactive 3-D worlds, like video games. And the more complex a program gets, the harder it is for Whyline to offer the right questions and answers. Adding Whyline to a different language, like Java, which is 10 times as complex, could limit how much Whyline can help. However, "we have this new way to think about debugging tasks and I don't think there is any question we can make it better than it is today," Myers said.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/TECH/ptech/07/27/debugging.ap/index.html>

42. *July 27, Reuters* — **Web worm seen abating, but leaving systems exposed.** A computer worm that over the last 24 hours disrupted some of the world's most popular sites, including Google, tapered off on Tuesday, July 27, as computer users patched up their defenses, analysts said. **But computer security firms warned the MyDoom worm had left many computer systems' vulnerable to follow-on attacks by allowing the mysterious author of the worm to go straight to MyDoom-infected computers in the future to launch other viruses rather than scan the Internet to find vulnerable systems.** Computer users can keep their systems protected from such back-door attacks by regularly downloading anti-viral software updates from computer security companies. In the current variant, MyDoom scans the hard drives of computer systems for e-mail addresses then turns to online search sites, like Google and Yahoo, to find additional leads.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=internetNews&storyID=5789743>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis	
<p>Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.</p> <p>US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: The latest variant of MyDoom created the unintended effect of creating a Denial of Service (DoS) condition in several Internet Search Engine Sites. This is due to the fact that the worm attempts to perform internet searches for valid email addresses for domain names it finds on victim computers.</p>	
Current Port Attacks	
Top 10 Target Ports	<p>135 (epmap), 137 (netbios-ns), 9898 (dabber), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 5554 (sasser-ftp), 445 (microsoft-ds), 4000 (Connect-BackBackdoor), 111 (sunrpc), 3127 (mydoom), 554 (rtsp)</p> <p>Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html; Internet Storm Center</p>
<p>To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.</p> <p>Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/.</p>	

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

43. *July 28, Associated Press* — **Courthouse evacuated after false bomb threat. The Pike County Courthouse in Magnolia, MS, was evacuated Tuesday, July 27, following a telephoned bomb threat, the fifth such hoax in the south Mississippi area this month.** No bomb was found at the courthouse or at the other threat sites. Sheriff Mark Shepherd said the courthouse call was received around 9:15 a.m. and that county lawmen, along with Magnolia police officials, cleared the building. Both the Georgia-Pacific plant in Gloster and Beacham Memorial Hospital in Magnolia received bomb threats last Friday, July 23. In addition, bomb

threats were called in to a local Sears department store, and to the McComb/Pike County Airport earlier this month.

Source: <http://www.clarionledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2004/0728/NEWS01/407280350/1002>

44. *July 27, KVAL 13 News (OR)* — **Lane Community College bomb scare.** Students and staff got quite a scare Tuesday, July 27, at Lane Community College (LCC) in Eugene, OR, after someone called the school and threatened to blow it up. It took campus security all day to scour the campus for sign of some explosives. **Hundreds of staff and students were forced to leave LCC, and classes were canceled for the day. A campus security officer says the caller reportedly told a school official that there were three bombs in the school that would detonate in an hour, a threat that officials took seriously.** Campus security scoured all of the buildings on campus, approximately a million square feet. Seven hours later, just as the school board started to gather for a meeting, crews gave the green light that the campus was clear.
- Source: <http://www2.kval.com/x30530.xml?ParentPageID=x2649&ContentID=x46226&Layout=kval.xsl&AdGroupID=x30530>

[[Return to top](#)]

General Sector

45. *July 27, Associated Press* — **Terrorists obtain South African passports. Al Qaeda militants and other terrorists traveling through Europe have obtained South African passports, and authorities believe they got them from crime syndicates operating inside the government agency that issues the documents.** The illicit acquisition of the passports, which allow travel through many African countries and Britain without visas, sent shock waves through South Africa after one top police official said "boxes and boxes" of the documents were discovered in London. Barry Gilder, director general of the Department of Home Affairs, told The Associated Press he has come across a number of instances in which South African passports were found in the hands of al Qaeda suspects or their associates in Europe — both in his current capacity and as a former deputy director in the National Intelligence Agency. South African officials say crime syndicates selling the country's identity documents and passports for as little as \$77 have operated inside Home Affairs for years. They sell mostly to economic migrants, who find it easier to enter Europe or the U.S. on a South African passport than ones from their own countries. But terrorists now appear to be tapping into these networks, Gilder acknowledged.
- Source: <http://apnews.myway.com/article/20040728/D843HM8O0.html>

46. *July 26, Associated Press* — **Russia toughens stance on terrorism.** President Vladimir Putin signed legislation Monday, July 26, that toughens punishments for terrorism, increasing maximum prison sentences from 20 years to life in certain cases. **The legislation enables courts to sentence convicts to life in prison for acts of terrorism that were committed by an organized group or that led to wrongful deaths or other grave consequences, according to the Interfax news agency.** The amendments, approved overwhelmingly by parliament in recent weeks, also allow life sentences for those convicted of terrorism involving nuclear facilities or nuclear or radioactive materials, the agency reported. The tougher penalties were proposed by the pro-Kremlin United Russia party after an explosion tore through a Moscow

subway car on February 6, killing 41 people. Authorities called it a terrorist attack and blamed Chechen rebels. No one has been charged in connection with the bombing. Suicide bombings and other attacks blamed on Chechen rebels have killed hundreds of civilians in recent years. Source: <http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/world/9248810.htm?1c>

[[Return to top](#)]

DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP Web page (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Alerts](#) – Advisories and Information Bulletins: DHS/IAIP produces two levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that addresses cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary and assessment of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues.

[DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive](#) – Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports.

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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